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INPORT NEWS

SERVING PORT COLBORNE • WAINFLEET • SHERKSTON • LOWBANKS • ISSUE NO. 50 VOLUME 14

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■ **INAUGURAL:** Wainfleet

Rookie sworn in

DAVE JOHNSON
InPort News Staff

WAINFLEET—Township councillors will work to engage the public and work together with residents through openness and transparency over the next four years, Mayor April Jeffs said last Tuesday night.

see WAINFLEET page 2

■ **PORT COLBORNE:** City council sworn in



Badawey: Let's get to it

MARYANNE FIRTH
InPort News Staff

PORT COLBORNE — There's plenty of work to be done in Port Colborne over the next four years, and the new city council is wasting no time.

"Let's enjoy this evening, and first thing tomorrow morning let's get to it," Mayor Vance Badawey told the faces around the horseshoe meeting Monday night.

"There's a great deal of work to do ... the key is to get it done," he said.

Badawey and the eight city councillors — Ron Bodner, Barbara Butters, Frank Danch, Angie Desmarais, Yvon Doucet, Dave Elliott, Bea Kenny and Bill Steele — gathered with friends, family and supporters for their first night in office.

MARYANNE FIRTH Staff Photo
Justice Theresa Maddalena of the Superior Court of Justice administers the oath of office to Port Colborne Mayor Vance Badawey during the inaugural meeting of city council on Monday night.

There were plenty of witnesses in the packed council chambers as Justice Theresa Maddalena of the Superior Court of Justice administered the oath of office to each of the new elected officials.

Dave Elliott said it's both "an honour and a privilege" to represent the people of Ward 1. Though through the election residents have put their trust in him, Elliott said he plans to earn the respect of constituents.

Ward 1 Coun. Steele expressed how special Port Colborne is to him and his family.

"We are truly lucky to have such a place to live," he said, adding he plans to work hard to maintain that quality of life.

"I have very little to say, it all just comes down to thank you," said Ward 2 Coun. Desmarais.

"It's a humbling experience to have this level of trust put into you. I won't let anyone down."

Her Ward 2 counterpart, Doucet used his address to prompt the public to "share your thoughts, requests and complaints."

see PORT INAUGURAL page 2

See Inside:

INSERTS

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■ WAINFLEET

Jeffs envisions a prosperous term

FROM PAGE 1

Jeffs and four aldermen were sworn in by retired crown attorney Richard Ely during the inaugural meeting.

Council chambers were packed with residents and family and friends of the aldermen and mayor.

Jeffs, in her first meeting as mayor — and as an elected official — said it was great to see everyone out and the hall packed.

"You don't see this too often and I hope it continues in the future."

The mayor told her aldermen — Richard Dykstra, Ted Hessels, Beity Konec and David Wyatt — she looks forward to working with all of them over the next four years.

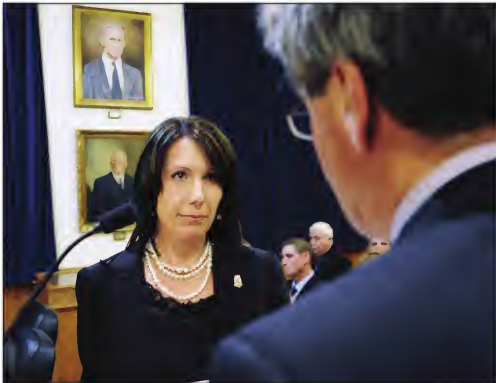
"We have a wonderful staff and an ambitious council, so I anticipate an effective and prosperous term on the horizon."

As a rookie, Jeffs said township staff made her transition over the past few weeks as smooth as possible.

"I think I can speak for all of council by saying that we are excited to work together with all departments here at the township. Again, I look very forward to being a part of this new council and moving Wainfleet into the next decade by affecting positive change," said Jeffs in her speech.

The new aldermen each thanked supporters.

Konec said it was definitely a humbling experience to be sitting on the other side of the



DAVE JOHNSON Staff Photo

April Jeffs is sworn in by retired crown attorney Richard Ely at Wainfleet council's inaugural meeting Tuesday night. Jeffs' first full meeting as mayor comes Tuesday, Dec. 21, at 7 p.m.

table. She attended nearly every council meeting over the past number of years.

"I'm eager to work with the diverse personalities here. I think we'll do awesome and wonderful things for the township," said Konec.

Said Dykstra: "I'm in this for this Wainfleet. I hold Wainfleet dear to my heart."

Hessels, the only veteran politician on council, welcomed his new colleagues.

"I look forward to working together with you. I hope we

can work as team work in best interests of Wainfleet."

Wyatt promised to make sure there will be plenty of discussion on issues so "we can make the best decisions for all of Wainfleet."

Former mayor Barb

Henderson presented Jeffs with the mayor's chain of office to end the evening.

The new council's first meeting is Tuesday, Dec. 21, at 7 p.m.

djohnson@weldandtribune.ca

■ PORT INAUGURAL

'We're all in this together'

FROM PAGE 1

Doucet said residents can expect many ward meetings to take place over the four-year term, in order for their wants and needs to be heard.

By voting her into office again, Kenev said the public has entered into a contract.

The public has promised to support the Ward 3 councillor, and in return she has pledged to work hard and dedicate herself to the community, she said.

"I will work to the best of my ability to serve you over the next four years."

Ward 3 Coun. Danch thanked his family and the public for showing him "support in my newest adventure."

"This should be an interesting four years," he told council, adding he hopes to make Port Colborne "a better place for all of us."

With the economic downturn not yet over, the next four years will be challenging, said Ward 4 Coun. Bodner.

As council works to maintain and improve the city, it must ensure that "residents and businesses can afford to stay here and grow with us," he said.

Returning Coun. Butters thanked Ward 4 residents for trusting her to again be their voice.

"I won't let you down. We're all in this together," she told the public.

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■ READERS REMEMBER



DAVE JOHNSON Staff Photo

Lois Noxel holds a Christmas Carol book that has been in her family for years.

Visions of dinner dance in her head

LOIS NOXEL
for InPort News

PORT COLBORNE — Many, many years ago I was invited to go into the Scorgie household with Enid and Roma, the two Scorgie daughters.

Mrs. Scorgie said to me, "Would you like to stay for dinner with us, Lois?"

"Oh yes, thank you," I replied. "But I'd better ask my mother first." Mother said I may go.

When our delicious meal was over, I asked Mrs. Scorgie if I may go into their living room, to see the Christmas lights on their tree. They were bubble lights and ours at home were different. Finally, I thanked my hostess and the girls and sent out for home.

This event made mother recall the time when we had a very bad storm and the power went out for three hours. Mrs. Scorgie possessing a gas stove, and knowing that we had an electric stove, kindly sent down our dinners for us to enjoy. We had plenty of potatoes, cabbage with melted cheese over

it and steak. There were also tasty homemade rolls and a delicious trifle pudding for dessert.

When I was four years of age I took piano lessons and also I belonged to a choir. We learned many carols and Christmas songs. The highlight of all this study was that we presented a Christmas concert. When it came to the actual event, our conductor said to all of us, "Now you must watch me. Keep your eyes directly on me. Don't look out at the audience and don't look around."

I took this so seriously and stared at our conductor and my eyes hurt.

I was the youngest choir member and when the music ended I presented our accompanist and soloist with a beautiful bouquet of flowers. I held out the skirt of my lovely hand-crocheted dress and curtsied to her and turned around and curtsied to the audience.

When I was six, I remember that our class at school had a skating party, held on the rink, at the side of our

school. We skated and skated and went to my house where mother had hot chocolate ready and cookies to enjoy.

Another occasion I remember was when I was sitting in my Grade 2 class and someone came to the classroom door. To my amazement I was summoned to the door where I found a handsome blonde boy waiting for me. He explained that his church was having a sleigh ride party and he asked me to go with him. His name, he stated, was Robert.

To make a long story short, I went with him and afterwards he pulled me home on his toboggan. His parting remark was, "Good night, don't let the bedbugs bite." I didn't know what he was talking about, and I ran into the house.

These are some of my memories at Christmas, when I was a child.

Readers Remember is a series of stories based on Christmas season experiences submitted by Tribune readers. It runs through Dec. 24.

■ READERS REMEMBER

Keeping the Christmas kettles filled

CAROLYN MCPHERSON
for InPort News

WELLAND PORT — A young girl wearing worn out jeans and a light jacket walks down a less than desirable street in a big city. Along the way she passes people of all ages sitting or lying on the sidewalk, some sleeping and some just staring into space. Often this area is called Skid Row, a place full of despair and hardship stories.

With hunched shoulders and sad eyes, she reaches her destination. Her home for the time being is a shelter made of cardboard and a sheet of plastic. Inside there are no comforts of home, just an old chair, a ragged sleeping bag and some mismatched dishes.

As she wearily flopped down on the chair she reflected on her situation. She felt lost with little self-esteem or direction for her future. For many reasons she

was trapped in her circumstance of being homeless. How could she and many others on the street escape this cycle of poverty?

She glanced at a sign she had made and hung on the cardboard wall. It said: "After the verb To Love, the verb To Help is the most beautiful verb in the world."

Reading those words her fighting spirit returned and she went back onto the street to see what she could do for others who needed hope and healing too.

I remembered this story as I noticed the Salvation Army kettles being set up for the annual Christmas donation program. The lonely looking attendants are hoping that all of us will give generously for those who are going through a difficult time.

Many years ago when our three children were in elementary school my husband decided that they needed a lesson in the gesture of giving

to others. He started our new Christmas tradition of putting the same amount of money in the Salvation Army kettle that we spent on our Christmas groceries. His idea made quite an impression and contained the rampant consumerism which was beginning to thrive in our home.

Something about the Christmas season inspired a spirit of kindness and generosity. May we all be so filled with that kind of spirit that it overflows to everyone we meet. Let's make it our mission to be willing to share what we have to nurture the souls of others who are not too far away and yet a world apart.

Happy giving in the same spirit that has been given to us.

Readers Remember is a series of stories based on Christmas season experiences submitted by Tribune readers. It runs through Dec. 24.



DAVE JOHNSON Staff Photo

Carolyn McPherson holds up a sign that says To Love and To Help, in her Wellandport home.

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ourview

Wind farms

It seems odd to build wind farms in Niagara is building. And with two projects proposed for Wainfleet, it's not good news for those proposing the projects.

Proponents of wind farms in Wainfleet include Harold, Bill and John Loeffen, who have formed Wainfleet Wind Energy Inc. and Tom Rankin, of Rankin Construction.

One has also been proposed for West Lincoln, but residents there have formed West Lincoln Wind Action Group. The group is fighting a planned wind farm sited for the western edge of town, mostly because of health and property value concerns.

Earlier this year, Wainfleet residents asked council to place a moratorium on the proposed farms. Council turned down that request.

But if Tory leader Tim Hudak is elected as Ontario's next premier, those residents may get their wish. Earlier this year the Tories put forward a motion calling for a moratorium on new wind projects until an "independent, comprehensive" study on the effects of living near turbines is completed.

We do agree that more comprehensive studies should be conducted to determine the effects of turbines. But can't we look to countries where they have been in use for decades.

Surely they have to have conducted research and studies into possible health effects. While those studies may not have a direct link to what is being proposed in Wainfleet and West Lincoln, they could be a starting point.

Whether wind farms are cost effective is also an issue frequently brought up by those opposed to the projects.

If health effects need to be looked at, then so does the cost effectiveness of wind farms.

If they are too costly to run and don't help bring down energy costs or eliminate coal-fired generating stations, then they shouldn't be built.

If, however, it can be shown they will help bring down energy costs and be good for the environment, then they should be given the go-ahead.

We can't keep depending on the energy sources we have today. Other than hydro-electric power, facilities that use coal will run out of fuel and new nuclear power plants are too costly to build. Wind power may be the only choice we have one day.

I'VE BEEN THINKING

JEEVA SAM
Morgan's Point and Fox Road East United churches

The Pineapple Story is a book by Otto Koning, a Christian missionary who spent part of his life among a native tribe in New Guinea. In addition to sharing the gospel with them, he started to grow pineapples. Once they were ready to be plucked, however, he could never get his hands on even one of the ripe fruits, as the natives would steal them all. Not only that, but they did not think there was anything wrong in stealing them.

Needless to say Otto was very angry with them. The more they stole, the angrier he got. He even had a German Shepherd flown in to protect the garden, but this resulted in the natives being even more alienated from him.

It should come as no surprise that during his first seven years there, not a single person chose to follow Jesus.

While on furlough in the United States, Otto attended a conference where he was encouraged to hand ownership of the garden to hand and not treat it as though it were his own personal property. He promptly obeyed.

Shortly after his return to New Guinea, one day the natives commented: "You've become a Christian recently, haven't you?" Otto asked: "Why do you say that?" They replied, "Because you

don't get angry anymore when we steal your pineapples."

All of a sudden Otto realized that his life had not reflected his message. The natives had heard the name of Jesus incarnate as he preached, but they had not witnessed Christ incarnate in the way he practiced his faith.

"Incarnation" literally means "to become flesh" or "to be embodied." Jesus is known as the Word made flesh (John 1:14). God in human form, a message that is at the heart of Christmas.

Martin Luther said that Christians are to be "little Christs" to their neighbours. In other words, observers see Jesus "in the flesh" or incarnate in the lives of those who bear his name. As Jesus himself said in John 13:34-35: "As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another."

When followers of Jesus love one another as he did, everyone will see them:

forgive their enemies as he did even as he lay dying on the cross; show compassion to anyone in need as he did, making no distinction between those who followed his faith and those who did not; do good and mix and mingle with the so-called "sinners" and "outcasts" of today as he did with tax collectors and prostitutes in his day... get the picture?

Malcolm Muggeridge said of Mother

Teresa: "In her face I trace the very geography of Jesus' Kingdom; all the contours and valleys and watersheds. I need no other map." Jesus incarnate in Mother Teresa was what made a believer out of a one-time Marxist and acid-tongued atheist.

This is why I am quite uneasy when Christians insist, as they sometimes do at this time of the year, that recipients of their generosity sit through a presentation of the gospel first before receiving the gift that is offered them—it is a free meal, toys for children, clothing, etc.

Consider what Elias, a missionary friend, did among hill tribes in South India. He and his team dared to touch the untouchables and offered them clothing and other necessities of life with no strings attached.

This in turn prompted the tribal people to ask why such kindness was being extended to them and opened the door for the team to incarnate the name of Jesus.

Yes, there is power in His name and His name have been forever merely at the mention of the name of Jesus. However, as Otto Koning discovered, incarnation without love produces no results, while a combination of the two produced more "little Christs" in New Guinea.

As it was in New Guinea then, so let it be in North America now.

Merry Christmas, everybody.

readers'views

Regional chair election

If anything illustrates the arrogance against those of us who are opposed to 'elected representatives of the people' any better than last week's vote for a new regional chair I can't imagine what it could be. Not so much that Dianne Goblebourne hung in there for three of the four elimination votes, but that there were enough regional councillors supporting him for him to go.

Not only arrogance and entitlement but an open and public declaration of their contempt for the voters who make it quite clear that Goblebourne was not who they wanted to represent them.

Gary Burroughs may be a good selection and lead regional council well, only time will tell. Sadly past experience suggests that all 'counsel-building' means is that the same old faces will make the same old deals, all of which will cost the dwindling numbers of Regional taxpayers even more in as yet uncollected taxes,

whilst they will do nothing to reduce the ever growing debt they are building except to complain it's either federal or provincial governments fault for not bailing them out of their economic incompetence with even more of your tax dollars, just from a different tax trough.

The only tiny bright spot in the whole farce was a comment from Cindy Forster. Cindy, why didn't you run for regional chair?

On Gary Burroughs's election she said she thought "...he will be more inclusive of the interests of councillors and what they see as important in their communities." That's not the comment I want and sadly is only the usual window dressing which detracts a bit from the following quote she made: "That is opposed to what staff thinks is of interest to communities."

She obviously 'gets it' and perhaps may be able to educate some of her newly elected regional councillors before they are brainwashed as much as most of the incumbents appear to be.

Whilst elected representatives continue to do a pretty abysmal job, just look at the mounting debts and the financial state of the region. Parliament, they are not soley to blame.

In theory, at least every four years they have to stand for re-election. Our regional council has the permanent and ever growing unelected government staff. They accept no responsibility for incompetence, waste increasingly millions of your tax dollars and still demand that 75% of every tax dollar collected, of the top, to ensure their salaries and benefits are guaranteed regardless of the declining economic state in Niagara.

This regional council under Gary Burroughs, can take back control from their out of control staff and actually represent those who voted for them then and this regional council will be a success.

But it will take more than just one regional councillor to show they 'get it'

Andrew Watts
Wainfleet

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ALONG THE LAKESHORE

SUNDAY, DEC. 19

Experiencing the pain of loss this Christmas season? Come and receive the gifts of peace, comfort and hope at a special Healing for the Grieving service at 7 p.m. at Morgan's Point United Church, Wainfleet. For more information, please call 905-899-1218 or visit www.morganspointunited.com

FRIDAY, DEC. 31

New Years Eve Band Show @THE HUB. Doors open at 8 p.m. Cost \$5 per person — Includes party favours and snacks featuring: The Autumn Crush, Universal Thought and Those Damn Medalling Kids. This is an all ages event.

AT THE PORT COLBORNE PUBLIC LIBRARY

Art in the Atrium: "The Subject is Clear: an Exhibition of Paintings in Pastel" by Rey Baecher. In the Atrium, October 15, 2010 to January 15, 2011.

Kids' Yoga with Nadia Esposito. For ages 4 to 11. From 4 p.m. to 5 p.m. New six week session begins Tuesday, November 2nd to December 7th. Cost is \$25 per session or \$5.00 per drop-in. To register call Nadia at 905-329-9841.

Create with Kathleen: Adult art classes with Kathleen Thorsen of Stone House Art Gallery. Tuesdays,

10 a.m. to noon, starting September 7th. Cost is \$10.00 per class, materials supplied. Ongoing. For more information, contact Kathleen by phone at 905-834-9784 or by email at: kathleen.horsen@cogeco.ca.

Small Hands Studio: Art Workshops for Children. With Kelly Langley Davies. Painting, drawing and sculpting. Mondays, 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. September 13,

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Express Yourself Writer's Workshop: With facilitators Kitty and Gary Roy. Thursdays, 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Explore your own abilities to express your

thoughts, emotions and dreams using the written word. Receive critiques on your works in a non-judgmental forum. Get practical information on getting published. For more information, contact the facilitators at grj@cogeco.ca or call the library at 905-834-6512.

see ALONG THE LAKESHORE page 6

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ALONG THE LAKESHORE

FROM PAGE 5

ONGOING

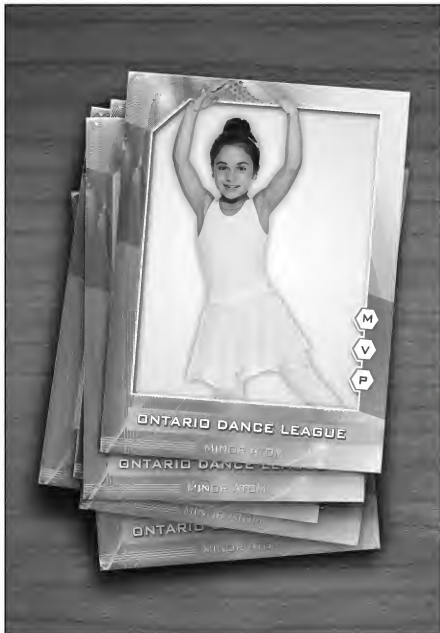
March of Dimes is celebrating its 60th Anniversary in 2011 and needs your help. The charity is seeking volunteers in Welland and Port Colborne to help support its Door-to-Door Campaign in January. Please join a sixty-year tradition of generosity and help children and adults with disabilities in your community. We still need canvassers and captains to join the campaign. For more information or to volunteer please call 1-800-263-3463 ext. 7705 or e-mail door2door@marchofdimes.ca. To learn more about March of Dimes' programs and services for people with disabilities, please visit www.marchofdimes.ca.

Alzheimer Society of Niagara Region Support Groups for Caregivers meets the first Tuesday of each month

(except for July and August) at 1:30 p.m. to 3 p.m. at Rapeje Lodge, 277 Plymouth Rd., Welland. For more information call 905-687-3914.

Port Colborne Ontario Early Years Centre offers interactive play sessions, mornings: Monday to Friday from 9-12 and afternoons: Monday to Thursday from 1-4. These programs are for children under the age of six years and their parent or caregiver and are free of charge. Please visit the Ontario Early Years Centre, Port Cares, 92 Charlotte St., Port Colborne or call 905-834-9071 ext. 238 or email oeyc-pc@portcares.on.ca for more information.

Computer workshops and one-on-one training are available at the Wainfleet Township Public Library Monday, Wednesday and Friday afternoons. Please call the Library at 905-899-1277 to book an appointment.



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■ CHRISTMAS CHOIR



MARYANNE FIRTH Staff Photo

Port Colborne's new city council was treated to an early Christmas present as members of the McKay Public School choir, complete with stylish shades, performed their rendition of Cool Santa. The choir kicked off the inaugural meeting of council with the singing of the national anthem before breaking into the hip holiday tune.

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■ LESS CRASS?: Sense of peace prevalent

Finding the real spirit of the Christmas season

Christmas is somehow different this year. I can't put my finger on it but there's just this sense of peace that seems to be prevalent this year more than others.

Ironically, too, with all the mayhem that's going on globally, it's just this feeling of far less crass commercialism than I've felt in past years. Maybe I'm just ignoring it more this year. Who knows?

One of my favourite pieces of music during this time is jazz great Vince Guaraldi's A Charlie Brown Christmas. It's the original soundtrack



George Duma
BY GEORGE

recording of the CBS television special of oh so many years ago. Guaraldi was already an established jazz star when he took on the project. As writer Derrick Bang once wrote, "Even before Duke Ellington played San Francisco's Grace Cathedral, that venerable institution's Reverend Charles Gomerphrey selected Guaraldi to write a



GEORGE DUMA
InPort News photo
Vince Guaraldi's A Charlie Brown Christmas
modern jazz setting for the

choral Eucharist.

"The composer laboured 18 months with his trio and a 66-voice choir, and the result is an impressive blend of Latin influences, waltz tempos, and traditional jazz 'supper music' that was performed live on May 21, 1965, and the album became another popular and critical hit. Clearly, if Vince Guaraldi could write music for God, he could pen tunes for Charlie Brown."

And so began Guaraldi's association with Peanuts creator Charles Schulz. My favourites on that Charlie Brown Christmas CD are both the instrumental and vocal versions of Christmas Time is Here. It's such a

haunting, melancholy, yet uplifting piece that just seems to neatly sum up the entire feeling of this time of year.

Fans know the whole story behind the Charlie Brown Christmas story by now — finding the real spirit of the Christmas season.

It's what I believe all of us strive for, either consciously or subconsciously.

May we all find it this year.

My dear friend Joan Scapillato celebrated her book launching during the Port Colborne Historical and Marine Museum's annual Christmas festival a couple of weekends ago.

Appropriate it was, since all

the proceeds from the book's sale are going to the museum.

Anybody who knows Joan also knows how kind and humble she is, how she will always deflect praise sent her way and find a way to give it to someone else. The launch was a huge success, with local signing copies of the book and selling them out in no time during the Sunday festival. After that, organizers were taking down names for future delivery.

The book is beautiful. The cover displays an extraordinary watercolour image by local artist John featuring the Port Colborne Harbour and West St.

see DUMA page 9

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■ DUMA

FROM PAGE 8

Years ago, when I was *The Tribune's* Port Colborne editor, Joan was a freelance writer for the paper and her specialty was writing about people doing personality profiles. With her warmth and charm she could get people to open up and tell their stories.

As all good writers and

interviewers know, you learn much more by listening than by talking. Joan was both a good interviewer and a good writer. Later down the road, Joan and I came up with a regular weekly feature idea for the *TriPort* News titled *Unsung Heroes*. Each week she would shine a spotlight on a different Port "hero," someone who made the community a better place in

which to live.

Of course, the trouble with shining a spotlight on unsung heroes is the fact they're unsung for a reason—they don't want the attention, it was never why they performed their good deeds. Yet Joan always found a way to convince these good folks their stories should be told. They would perhaps inspire others. It's that series of wonderful

columns and her previous personality profiles that now make up the compilation that is Joan's book, *Port People—Builders and Shapers of our Culture and Community*.

For \$15, it may well be the literary bargain of the year in all of Niagara. And, it would make

a wonderful Christmas present. Call the museum at 905-834-7894 to order one.

□ □ □

I was honoured and privileged to go see Elizabeth Baga last Sunday afternoon at her Northland Pointe-open house. The occasion? This

amazing lady was celebrating her 100th birthday surrounded by family and friends. Mrs. Baga is a remarkable woman. I've known her for years through her late son and my special friend, former mayor Coleman Baga.

see DUMA page 10

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■ DUMA

FROM PAGE 9

Her granddaughter Penny Bagu is also a good buddy.

I was at Mrs. Bagu's last open house pretty much a year ago to the day to celebrate her 99 years of life. At the time, she told me the story of her husband Kalman dying on Christmas morning in 1964. She reminded me of it this past Sunday. I asked her to tell me again.

"I had this dream not long after he was gone," she said in her lovely Hungarian accent. "I dream that my husband comes home and he sits at the end of our dining room table and he

looks at me. I say to him, 'You can't go back. If you go, I'm coming with you.' He said, 'No, you can't come with me. You're going to live a long life.'"

Amazing, isn't it?

Last year's gathering brought together her children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren for a Chinese food lunch at the Pointe.

This past Sunday's celebration was opened up to friends as well and they came in droves.

Droves passed through to tell Mrs. Bagu how much they loved her. She still has the twinkle in her eye. She still looks like a million dollars and can tell you

exactly what happened during every stage of her life.

Last year, Mrs. Bagu told me she didn't understand what all the fuss was about. After all, she was merely turning 99. I'm sure she felt the same last Sunday. As she said last year, "Lots of people live long lives."

And last year, I wrote in response to that, "Perhaps. But not all of those people live them with the style, grace, humour

and unconditional love as this matriarch, who has so often been the glue that holds the Bagu family together."

Nothing has changed in 365 days.

George Duma is a resident of Port Colborne and has spent 30 years in the newspaper business. He welcomes comments and column suggestions and can be reached at: gduma@cogeco.ca

GEORGE DUMA in Port News photo

Elizabeth Bagu celebrated her 100th birthday Sunday surrounded by dozens of family and friends, including granddaughter Penny Bagu, during an open house in her honour at Northland Pointe.



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■ **REEB HOUSE:** Bar being rebuilt

Rising from the ashes

InPort News Staff

PORT COLBORNE — There's a sense of relief in the tone of John Zarb's voice when he stands and watches the rebuilding of the Reeb House.

It was a year ago when fire destroyed Zarb's Hwy. 3 restaurant and bar in Port Colborne. Nothing was left of the building, only debris.

Time has come to reconstruct what the Port Colborne man lost last December. Construction crews were on the scene with heavy

machines starting put together the new Reeb House, slated to open during the Victoria Day long weekend in May.

After going through city hall and obtaining a building permit, Zarb is delighted to see what's unfolding.

"It's a relief. It took so long to get here," he said last week.

"Big relief for employees who are returning to the establishment."

Zarb said the new Reeb House will be bigger and better than the one he lost. The new restaurant will have

It's a relief. It took so long to get here."

John Zarb
Reeb House Tap and Grill

two levels, with the main floor being 450 square metres — twice the size of the previous restaurant. Upstairs, there will be an inn with between 15 and 20 rooms.

Also, there's going to be games rooms, an outdoor patio and beach volleyball courts.



JOHN VESSOYAN Staff Photo

Reeb House owner John Zarb, middle, holds in his hands the plan for his new restaurant in Port Colborne. Next to him are construction crew members Terry Symonds, left, and Serge Corriveau. The construction of the new Reeb House is expected to be completed by the Victoria Day long weekend in May.

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■ **GREEN MARINE:** Great Lakes cities group joins program

Badawey buoyed by support for shipping program

WAYNE CAMPBELL
InPort News Staff

PORT COLBORNE — Mayor Vance Badawey is pleased to hear a Great Lakes cities group has joined the Green Marine shipping program.

"It's great news," Badawey said. "Green Marine is an initiative taken by the marine industry to ensure sustainability and good environmental performance."

Meeting in Ottawa, the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative endorsed the program and agreed last Friday to become an official supporter.

Green Marine is a binational, voluntary program

that aims to improve participants' environmental performance beyond regulatory compliance.

It introduces best practices, reduction targets and new technologies to improve participants' records in a number of areas including invasive species, air emissions and greenhouse gases, cargo residues, oily waters, conflicts of use within ports and environmental leadership.

David Bolduc, executive director of Green Marine, said the endorsement will foster further communication between the marine shipping industry and cities and communities around the Great Lakes.

It would also aid in his efforts to recruit participants.

"We have over 100 industry participants, partners and supporters and we are now working to extend that participation even further throughout the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence system and beyond."

"This endorsement further enhances the credibility of the program. We have already had federal and provincial governments as supporters."

Badawey said the marine industry "is already environ-

mentally friendly." Green Marine, which began in 2008, will ensure the industry sustains its environmental measures.

Port Colborne is working closely with the industry to follow the program while it plans for a mixed use of lands along the canal, particularly on the east side, Badawey said.

The city and the industry is working on a community improvement plan to map out the compatibility of marine, industrial, commercial and residential uses.

"All can exist together to ensure clean and green areas," Badawey said.

He called the Green Marine shipping program "the leading edge" for the industry and the communities it serves.

Wainfleet Mayor April Jeffs

said she wasn't familiar with the program, but the township will look at it to see if it affects the municipality along the Lake Erie shore.

wcampbell@
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PUBLIC NOTIFICATION

Proposed Communication Tower at
730 Main Street West, Port Colborne



BSA Canada is proposing to construct a communication tower to support new antennas for mobile phone service providers. The monopole tower will have a height of 53.4 metres (175 feet).

A public information session will be held:

When: Thursday, January 20, 2011, 6:00 pm-7:00 pm

Where: Port Colborne City Hall, 3rd Floor Council Chambers
66 Charlotte Street, Port Colborne

Any person may also provide comments about this proposal by mail, email, phone or fax to The Biglieri Group by Monday, January 24, 2011.

The Biglieri Group, planning consultants on behalf of BSA Canada Attention: Thomas Rees, Planner
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TWO STABBINGS

WELLAND — Two unrelated stabbings in Welland and Wainfleet sent two people to hospital.

In one case, a woman has been charged while in the other police are looking for a man.

In Wainfleet, Niagara Regional Police said a domestic dispute resulted in a 50-year-old man receiving a single stab wound.

He was taken to the Welland hospital and transferred to St. Joseph's Hospital in Hamilton. Last Saturday, Darlene

Aitken, 54, was charged with aggravated assault in connection with the stabbing. Police said the investigation is ongoing by members of the central region detective office and the forensic services unit. Also on Saturday, regional police were called to the

Welland hospital to regarding a man with stab wounds.

Police said the 32-year-old was visiting a friend on Victory Ave. in Welland when another man known to him came to the house.

"The two males became engaged in a verbal argument that resulted in a physical altercation," police said in a news release.

During the fight, the victim suffered stab wounds and was

brought to the hospital by people at the home.

Police are looking for the other man involved.

Neither stabbing victim suffered life-threatening injuries, police said.

HIT BY TRAIN

PORT COLBORNE — A teenage boy was in serious but stable condition after he

was hit by a train last week. Niagara Regional Police Staff Sgt. Joe Garvey said the 16-year-old was walking to Port Colborne High School when he crossed two sets of railroad tracks on Fielden Ave., and was struck by a slow moving Trillium Railway train comprising two locomotives that was travelling at about 10 km/h.

see BREEFS page 15

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FROM PAGE 14

Garvey said the boy suffered injuries to his leg and foot.

He was rushed to Welland hospital and then airlifted to McMaster Hospital in Hamilton.

Police officers, Port Colborne firefighters and paramedics were in the scene. Police continue to investigate the cause of the incident.

TEENAGERS NEEDED

PORT COLBORNE — Bridges Community Health Centre is seeking Port Colborne and Wainfleet students in grades 7 to 12 to help form its new volunteer youth health promotion committee.

The committee will help Bridges develop and co-ordinate a youth health promotion strategy. "This is a great opportunity for youth who want to help

others and take action on local youth health issues, while adding to their resume," says health promoter Lori Kleinsmith.

Teens may submit their name, contact information and a brief paragraph describing interest in health promotion to lori.kleinsmith@bridgeschc.ca by Dec. 22.

Bridges Community Health Centre is funded by the Hamilton Niagara Haldimand

Brant Local Health Integration Network.
For more information, visit www.bridgeschc.ca.

ARRESTS IN ARSON

PORT COLBORNE — Two men have been arrested in connection to a residential fire on Snider Rd. caused by Molotov

cocktails being thrown at the home this summer.

Niagara Regional Police charged Randy Weaver, 48, of Port Colborne, and Justin Lee, 19, of Welland, with arson disregard for human life. Both remain in custody until their next scheduled court date, Friday.
A third suspect is being sought.

On Sunday, Aug. 22, at about 6:30 p.m., a number of Molotov cocktails had been thrown at the home by three unknown individuals while the homeowner was asleep inside. A number of small fires were still burning when Port Colborne Fire Department arrived. Firefighters extinguished them.

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NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on behalf of YMCA OF NIAGARA application will be made to the Legislative Assembly of the Province of Ontario for an Act to amend The Young Man's Christian Association of St. Catharines Act, 1928 to provide that YMCA of Niagara may acquire and hold real property or any interest in real property in The Regional Municipality of Niagara, YMCA of Niagara may establish branch associations in The Regional Municipality of Niagara and beginning January 1, 2010 and, as defined in the Assessment Act, in The Regional Municipality of Niagara, is exempt for taxation for municipal and school purposes, except for local improvement rates, if it is occupied by and used solely for the purposes of YMCA of Niagara and YMCA of Niagara is a registered charity within the meaning of the Income Tax Act (Census).

The application will be considered by the Standing Committee on Regulations and Private Bills. Any person who has an interest in the application and who wishes to make submissions, for or against the application, to the Standing Committee on Regulations and Private Bills should notify, in writing, the Clerk of the Legislative Assembly, Legislative Building, Queen's Park, Toronto, Ontario M7A 1A2.

Dated at the City of St. Catharines this 8th day of December, 2010.

J. Rodney Bush
Solicitor for the Applicant
Bullman Matthey LLP
Lawyers
40 Queen Street, P.O. Box 1360
St. Catharines, ON L2R 6Z2
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QUICK LOOK: 2011 Volkswagen Eos



Volkswagen photo
The all-new 2012 Volkswagen Eos hardtop convertible features updated design and numerous new features to make it a must see for people who want style in combination with performance.

VW uncovers new Eos

JOE DUARTE
QMI Agency

The all-new 2012 Volkswagen Eos hardtop convertible features updated design to bring it in line with the previously introduced Golf and Jetta, but it also boasts numerous new features to make it a must see for people who want style in combination with performance.

And it remains the only hardtop convertible with a built-in sunroof and sunshade. At the push of a button, the top goes up or down in 25 seconds. Wind buffeting is controlled by a wind deflector integrated into the top of the windshield frame. In case of a rollover with the top down, roll hoops integrated into the rear seats automatically deploy.

The new Volkswagen design direction is most noticeable in the lowered grille with each of the three horizontal pieces trimmed with a narrow chrome strip. At the other end, reworked, two-part LED rear lights use fibre optic technology and the rear bumper has a moulded-in diffuser. Fog lights are standard fare.

Power is supplied by the ubiquitous 2.0-litre turbocharged four-cylinder engine, configured with 16-valves and dual overhead cams to add in producing 200 hp and 207 lb.-ft. of torque. The standard shifter is the direct-shift gearbox (DSG), which allows the driver to shift gears without working a clutch, or lets the computer handle the shifting chores. Economy is anticipated at 7.6 L/100km combined.

Inside, all 2012 Eos models

Fact file: 2012 Volkswagen Eos
MSRP: Est. \$45,000
Notable options: none.
Configurations: front engine/ front-wheel drive

Available engines: 2.0L turbo 4-cyl (200 hp/207 lb.-ft.)

Available transmissions: 5-sp auto with sequential shift

Fuel economy ratings (L/100km): Est. 7.6 combined

Warranties: Exp. 4 years/80,000 km (basic); 5 years/100,000 km (powertrain)

Competitors: Chevrolet Camaro; Ford Mustang; Mini Cooper; Mitsubishi Eclipse Spyder.

come with standard leather wrapped multifunction steering wheel and shift knob, and feature new "Matte Chrome" trim on the instrument panel and doors, as well as chrome-framed buttons and switches. On higher trim lines, genuine walnut adds elegance to the instrument panel and door panels, and is accompanied by supple "Vienna" leather upholstery. An automatic climate control adjusts temperature depending on the position of the top.

Keyless entry with push button start is standard, as is satellite radio, HD radio, and MP3/WMA playback. Radio functions are controlled through the touchscreen in the centre of the dash.

The car debuted with little fanfare at the 2010 Los Angeles Auto Show, and is expected in showrooms toward late spring 2012.

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